

*Employment of Tugs at Alleppey Port:*

119. MR. C. RAMANKUNJU (*Nominated*): (a) Can the delay in shipping at Alleppey be overcome to some extent if the services of tugs are made available?

(b) Has there been any requisition from the merchants or boat-owners for keeping a tug at Alleppey? If so, what action have the Government taken on that requisition?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(a) The use of a tug would no doubt facilitate the work of lighters in foul weather, but its employment would entail additional shipping charges to shippers who will have to pay tug-hire in addition to boat-hire.

(b) There have been no requisitions from the merchants or boat-owners for a tug at Alleppey. The shippers are said not to be in favour of the proposal at present.

*Statistics of Students belonging to Depressed Classes.*

120. MR. C. RAMANKUNJU (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) how many pupils of the depressed classes completed primary education in 1938;

(b) how many of them joined secondary schools; and

(c) how many discontinued their studies?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(a), (b) and (c) A statement\* containing the information required by the member is laid on the table.

*Stipends to Pupils of Depressed Classes.*

121. MR. C. RAMANKUNJU (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to institute a scheme for the grant of fifty stipends annually to fifty select pupils of the depressed classes completing primary education and desiring to continue their studies in secondary schools?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): This question is covered by a resolution balloted for discussion at this meeting of the Council.

*Poramboke Lands in Populous Villages.*

122. MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): (a) Are the Government aware of the existence of plots of Government lands reserved as *porambokes* in the midst of densely populated villages and tending perennially to endanger the sanitation of the neighbourhood?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they will grant such *porambokes* to private individuals so that they may be reclaimed and rendered harmless to sanitation?

\**I*vide Appendix—page 517.

[Mr. M. N. Pillai.]

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) Government have no information.

(b) No general answer can be given; but if specific instances are given, they will be examined on their merits.

*Communities enjoying Half-fee Concession.*

123. MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram cum Shencottah*): (a) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a list of the communities that are now enjoying half-fee concession?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to extend the half-fee concession to the Muppanar community?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(a) The member is referred to G. O. Dis. No. 609 of 23/Leg. E., dated the 16th June, 1923, published at pages 1081-1082 of part IV of the *Gazette* dated the 19th June, 1923.

(b) The entire question of fee concession is under reconsideration.

*Perumalkulam Tank, Shencottah.*

124. MR. S. SUBRAHMANYA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram cum Shencottah*): (a) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps they have taken with regard to the acquisition of the Perumalkulam tank in Shencottah which is considered to be a danger to the sanitation of the town?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to take steps to close the tank before the end of this year?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(a) The tank is *poramboke* and the question of transferring it to the Municipal Council is under the consideration of the Government.

(b) Considering the nature of the work involved and the large capital required for the purpose, Government do not think that the Municipal Council will be in a position to carry out the work before the end of this year.

*Pokkuvaravu Work.*

125. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that they have resolved to direct *pokkuvaravu* work being done speedily, even in cases requiring subdivisions, without making any actual survey and demarcation on the ground?

(b) If it is so, will it not tend to create confusion in the matter of survey records and cause great uncertainty and consequent hardship to the ryots?